
245.50

Local Public Health Services

Introduction

Public health agencies offer a variety of services in the community which may be of benefit to WIC participants, including:

- Childhood immunizations,
 - Home Visitation programs
 - Injury Prevention
 - Skilled nursing care and care coordination for individuals with acute or chronic illnesses,
 - Prenatal and postpartum health education,
 - Education about nutrition, safety, child development, and regular medical care,
 - Identification of and assistance in accessing community resources for individuals or families with special needs such as language barriers, developmental disabilities, limited family living skills, or financial difficulties,
 - Medicaid care coordination (Care for Kids),
 - Parenting education and support, and
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Delivery of services

Public Health Agencies work with clients or with other professionals to assist individuals, families, groups and communities with lifestyle changes for optimal health. In some instances, WIC Agencies coordinate with Public Health Agencies to provide the health assessment and education services for program participants, immunizations, or care coordination services. Access to Public Health services is also available through referrals.

Availability of services

Public health services are available in every county. WIC agencies are strongly encouraged to develop collaborative partnerships with the public health agencies and Boards of Health in their service area to develop referral criteria.

Payment for services

Public health services are funded by various sources, including state grants, sliding scale fees, Medicaid, Medicare, insurance, donations, and county funds.

Making a referral

To make a written referral, complete a Referral from the WIC Program form (see Policy 245.20A). Document referrals for public health nursing services in the data system as well as follow-up on written referrals.

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